

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

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In January 26, 1959 issue, Newsweek carries discussion recent Mikoyan visit as it relates German question. Article suggests that behind diplomatic amenities surrounding Mikoyan visit plain fact was that both US and Soviet Union were seeking way out of Berlin impasse. States that, behind scenes, US officials already examining two ways avoid stalemate. These are listed as (1) confederation of East and West Germany as interim device pending genuine reunification through free elections, and (2) movement West German capital from Bonn to West Berlin, and establishment official relations between West and East Germany.

QUOTE

Newsweek article characterizes these as 'Murphy Plan' UNQUOTE.

Dept spokesman, only if asked comment, will reply as follows: QUOTE It is well known that we are in continuing consultation with our Allies on all aspects Berlin situation and on German problem as whole, as raised by recent Soviet notes and Mikoyan talks. As is normal in connection any review situation.

Dated by:

EUR:GER:GER/P:HB:Co:fjb

1-21-59

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

GER - Alfred G. Vigderman

Circulates:

EUR - Mr. Kohler (in substance) SPC
P - Mr. Kretzmann (in substance) SPC
G - Mr. Murphy (in substance) SPC

RA - Mr. Lehmann (in substance) SPC
EE - Mr. Davies (in substance) SPC

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situation this type, we are obviously examining all theoretical possibilities which suggest themselves in order arrive at firm basis on which final policy decisions can be reached. Any suggestion that there is plan in existence such as you describe is without foundation. Our position with respect to normal and agreed formula for achieving genuine reunification Germany in freedom, namely, through free election process, remains unchanged UNQUOTE.

Dulles (ASV)

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